

SENATOR STONEY: My question Senator Koch is, if this bill were to be enacted and we established a Rules and Regulation Committee as a standing committee what then would be the function or would we abolish the present special committee that we have that deals with rules and regulations for the Legislature?

SENATOR KOCH: Presently as I understand our procedure, the special committee, which Senator Duis is the chairperson, the rules and regulations once we enact law, are developed by, our direction, the agency whether it is the Department of Education or whoever it might be. Those rules and regulations are reviewed and then the Governor has the final say on whether or not they become the act under which the agency regulates the works. The Legislature has very little to do about that. It is my intent that the Legislature examines them as well and that we do indeed say that this is our intent. I sometimes think that unless we have a standing committee to deal with this we can't deal with it Senator Stoney in its totality and with the thoroughness that I think it needs to be dealt with. I can see this committee as becoming a very important committee to the function of our deliberations and to the people that we serve under agencies. This is a special committee that Senator Duis has and he can speak to that issue because he has served in that capacity for quite some time. But, I believe that they only act after a complaint or something of that nature. He knows that better than I and I will defer to him and let him answer that question.

SENATOR STONEY: Senator Koch then what you are saying if I interpret it correctly, then we would remove that final or ultimate responsibility from the Executive Branch and place it with that special committee...or rather standing committee for the Legislature.

SENATOR KOCH: It would be a standing committee with equal power as it relates to rules and regulations.

SENATOR STONEY: Senator Koch, I think also that there was some question and once again I have to rely on antiquity, it has been a year now, but it seems that there was some question as to whether or not this might be a....create a Constitutional problem. Perhaps Senator Duis who is chairman of our present special committee could respond to that particular remark. Do you know whether or not the State of Wisconsin has had any difficulties with that?

SENATOR KOCH: No problems. There was a review by the court but there was not a problem.

SENATOR STONEY: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I would like to ask Senator Koch a question and then Senator Duis if I may. Senator Koch I know that you are aware that we have been studying the committee structure and possible recommendations for change. I am wondering where this as a